



(11)

EP 4 533 965 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:
16.07.2025 Bulletin 2025/29

(51) International Patent Classification (IPC):
A24F 40/10 ^(2020.01) **A24F 40/30** ^(2020.01)
A24F 40/46 ^(2020.01)

(43) Date of publication A2:
09.04.2025 Bulletin 2025/15

(52) Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC):
A24F 40/46; **A24F 40/10**; **A24F 40/30**

(21) Application number: **25151984.9**

(22) Date of filing: **21.09.2020**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB
GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC MK MT NL NO
PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR**

(30) Priority: **20.09.2019 EP 19198551**
20.09.2019 EP 19198526

(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in
accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
20789852.9 / 3 930 498

(71) Applicant: **Imperial Tobacco Limited**
Bristol BS3 2LL (GB)

(72) Inventors:
• **ILLIDGE, Benjamin**
Bristol, BS3 2LL (GB)
• **ASTBURY, Benjamin**
Bristol, BS3 2LL (GB)
• **AGGARWAL, Nikhil**
Bristol, BS3 2LL (GB)
• **LU, Huanghai**
Bristol, BS3 2LL (GB)

(74) Representative: **Mewburn Ellis LLP**
Aurora Building
Counterslip
Bristol BS1 6BX (GB)

(54) **SMOKING SUBSTITUTE APPARATUS**

(57) A smoking substitute apparatus. The smoking substitute apparatus comprising: an air inlet, and a vapour outlet; a vaporisation chamber the vaporisation chamber including: a first vaporiser, for vaporising aerosol precursor and providing vaporised precursor; and a second vaporiser, located downstream of the first vaporiser, for vaporising aerosol precursor and providing vaporised precursor; wherein the smoking substitute apparatus also includes a bypass airflow path, which bypasses the vaporisation chamber.

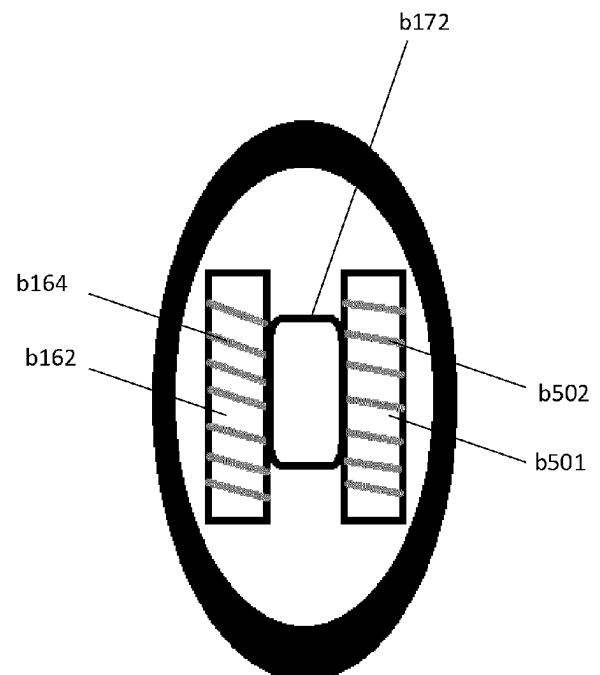


FIG. B21

EP 4 533 965 A3



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 25 15 1984

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	WO 2016/050244 A1 (FERTIN PHARMA AS [DK]) 7 April 2016 (2016-04-07) * abstract * * page 34, lines 4-14 * * page 34, lines 30-31 * * page 35, line 29 - page 36, line 2 * * page 36, line 28 - page 37, line 10 * * figures 4A, 5,6 *	1-6, 10-12	INV. A24F40/10 A24F40/30 A24F40/46
X	WO 2016/061822 A1 (HUIZHOU KIMREE TECHNOLOGY CO LTD [CN]) 28 April 2016 (2016-04-28) * abstract * * figures 1-7 *	1-3,7-9, 12	
X	CN 108 308 721 A (ALD GROUP LTD) 24 July 2018 (2018-07-24) * the whole document * & US 2019/313696 A1 (DING YI [CN] ET AL) 17 October 2019 (2019-10-17) * abstract * * paragraph [0009] * * paragraph [0019] * * paragraph [0023] * * figures 1-3 *	1,10,12	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC) A24F
X	WO 2018/001108 A1 (LIN GUANGRONG [CN]) 4 January 2018 (2018-01-04) * abstract * * figures 1-12 *	1,12	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 28 May 2025	Examiner Cabrele, Silvio
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 25 15 1984

5

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

28-05-2025

10

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 2016050244 A1	07-04-2016	EP 3200631 A1	09-08-2017
		US 2017251727 A1	07-09-2017
		WO 2016050244 A1	07-04-2016
WO 2016061822 A1	28-04-2016	NONE	
CN 108308721 A	24-07-2018	CN 108308721 A	24-07-2018
		US 2019313696 A1	17-10-2019
WO 2018001108 A1	04-01-2018	CN 205831076 U	28-12-2016
		WO 2018001108 A1	04-01-2018

15

20

25

30

35

40

45

50

55

EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82